(b) what stopped Government from calculating the amount due in this case all these years;

(c) whether it is a fact that proximity of the producer to the high ups in his Ministry are suspected for this State of Affairs;

(d) whether it is a fact that price of Revital Dextropropoxyphene was also overcharged by this formulator; and

(e) if so, what action has been taken and what is the present status of this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) The cases of overcharging in the prices of Proxyvon range of formulations, Revital capsules and Ibudex capsules came to the notice of Government in 1988. As already stated in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1140 dated 7-5-1992, it takes time in the cases of overcharging to arrive at a final decision because the companies deliberately avoid giving the details required by the Government for calculating the overcharged amount.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Dextropropoxyphene is one of the bulk drugs contained in Proxyvon range of formulations. Revital is the brand name of Cinseng based formulation manufactured by M/s. Ranbaxy. Position in respect of both these cases has been explained in reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

Names of bulk drugs

149. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1135 given in Rajya Sabha on 7th May, 1992 and state:

(a) what are the names of bulk drugs for which BICP has failed to recommend price even after the lapse of five years past DPCO, 1987 announcement;

(b) what are the names of bulk drugs in respect of which BICP have failed to send recommendations for revision in prices even after the lapse of three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that the prices of sulphadiazine and several other drugs given in reply is misleading and wrong;

(d) whether it is a fact that producers of diloxinide furoate and number of other drugs mentioned in reply have ceased production and the same are being produced by small scale sector; and

(e) if so, what are the names of units on whose data the prices were revised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHNITA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Details will be collected from BICP and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The current price of Sulphadiazine is Rs. 607/- Kg. and it was revised on 30.8.1991 and the price mentioned in the serial number 11 of the annexure of the R.S.U.S.Q. No. 1135 dated 7.5.1992 was inadevertentaly quoted for Sulphadimidine in place of Sulphadiazine.

(d) and (e) Information shall be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Rate of Purchase of Dilozamide Furoate

150. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1141 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th May, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the details of consumption, source of purchase, rate of purchase of Dilozanide Furoate by M/s. Boots for the last three years, year-wise have been verifide.

(b) if so, what was the price allowed to them in the formulations and what was the price at which purchases were made during the above period;

(c) what was the unintended benefit made by the company and whether this is recoverable;

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to recover the undue benefit;

(e) whether it is a fact that fake increase was recommended for this drug; and

(f) if so, what steps have been taken against those responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per available information, the price of Entamizole tablets, a non ceiling pack, which is based on bulk drug Diloxanide Furoate was fixed in favour of M/s. Boots in September, 1989 on the basis of the notified price of bulk danie with the then prevailing practice. dance with the then prevailing practice.

(c) to (f) Paragraph 15 of the DPCO, 1979 empowers the Government to recover from the manufacturers, importers or distributors, as the case may be, only the amount accured due to charging of prices higher than those fixed or notified by the Government as per the provision of the said order.

Suspension of Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited

151. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD), Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited has been recently again suspended:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when he was appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director;

(d) whether prior to his appointment as Chairman-cum-Managing Director, he was suspended earlier for corrupt practices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Shri R. Venkatesan, Chairman & Managing Director, Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited was recently placed under suspension again w.e.f. 19th May, 1992. The suspension was following the report of CBI about irregularities in the matter of award or painting contract to a private firm CBI had specifically recommended that Departmental enquiry for major penalty should be initiated against Shri Venkatesan and three other officers of RCF and they should be placed under suspension.

(c) Shri Venkatesan was appointed as CMD, RCF w.e.f. 26th August, 1989 (AN).

(d) and (e) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Plastic Industry

152. SHRI P. UPENDRA. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plastic industry in the country, and the woven manufacturers in particular have been hit very hard due to recent hike in excise duty on raw materials, devaluation of the rupee and high customs duty;

(b) whether the plastic industry has suggested any corrective measures; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Consequent to the import allowable under Liberalised Exchange Rate Management System, and increase in excise duties etc., the cost of plastic raw material have increased somewhat after Union Budget 1992-93. This has put the plastic industry under some hardship.

(b) and (c) Plastic industry has made several suggestions related to custom and excise duties adjustment and the same have been examind for appropriate action by the Government.